(b) and (c) No substantial disruption of medical services were reported in Central Govt. Hospitals in Delhi as there is a contingency plan available in the wake of strike. The OPD services are not hampered severely during strike period as Senior Doctors and Doctors from CGHS, ESI and Railways Hospitals were deployed in Central Govt. Hospitals to man the OPDs. During May, 1998, Nurses were on strike for 12 days and in July, 98 Group 'C' & 'D' staff were on strike for 8 days. Nurses strike was called off after the Nursing Allowance was enhanced to Rs. 1600 from Rs. 150.00 p.m. Hospital Patient Care Allowance (HPCA) was enhanced to Rs. 700 & 695 p.m. for Group 'C' & 'D' staff to settle their grievances.

Apart from the above, Health worker Unions resorted to token demonstrations on a few occasions but there was no disruption of medical services.

In May, 2006, the resident doctors/medical students were on strike against proposed increase in reservation.

Separate department for treatment of aged people

†1252. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:
SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI:
SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the number of aged people is increasing rapidly in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are considering to open a separate department in hospitals for the treatment of aged persons;

(d) if so, the number of hospitals at present where this facility is already available; and

(e) whether Government would consider about any strategy to facilitate the treatment of the aged person and pensioners?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (e) Due to better

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

health facilities and increase in the life span, number of senior citizen has been increasing. Health being a state subject it is for the State Government to set up facilities for treatment of aged people.

So far as Central Government Hospitals are concerned, there is no separate department exclusively for elderly persons. The elderly persons are also taken care within the existing departments. However, in these hospitals, once a week OPD is being run for the elderly persons. Besides this, separate counters and priority of examination of elderly persons are available in the above hospitals.

Fleecing of patients by doctors

1253. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that two prominent cardiologists of Government hospitals allegedly colluded with medical suppliers to implant inferior heart valves in the patients or even suggested surgeries to those who did not need one and thereby putting their lives at risk;

(b) if so, the action Government propose to take against these doctors; and

(c) the measures Government propose to take so that patients would not be fleeced in future by such doctors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) No complaint regarding the implant of inferior valve to the patients has been received regarding Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital and Safdarjung Hospital. However, complaint has been received against one Cardiologist each of Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital and Safdarjung Hospital regarding the interventional procedure (angioplasty) undertaken to the patient. The matter is being enquired into. Periodical review of such procedures are undertaken